



MI-CW2710

# Michigan Crop Weather

July 6, 2010

## Finally, Dry Weather

Six days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending July 4, according to the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office. Precipitation varied from 0 inches in the central and south Lower Peninsula to 1.34 inches in the western Upper Peninsula. Average temperatures ranged from 3 to 4 degrees below normal for the central and southern Lower Peninsula to 1 degree above normal in the eastern and western Upper Peninsula. With dry conditions for much of the state, producers were able to resume field activities this week. Farmers eagerly put a dent in haying; other activities for the week included weed spraying, side dressing nitrogen, spraying orchards, and preparing for cherry harvest. “Finally a hot dry week to catch up on a lot of hay, and corn is growing like crazy. Some corn is eight feet tall,” stated one reporter in the central Lower Peninsula. Another producer in the west central Lower Peninsula reported, “I have never seen corn six feet tall by the fourth of July.”

## Field Crops

A week of dryer conditions provided time for farmers to complete field work and an environment for significant crop growth. **Corn** started to tassel in southern counties. Fields had inconsistent growth due to ponding from previous weeks. It was a progressive week for **alfalfa**. A series of warm and dry days made it ideal for harvest. **Wheat** harvest began in southeastern counties and continued to dry down in the remainder of the state. **Oats** and **barley** maintained good progress toward maturity and are beginning to turn. Yield looked to be promising for both crops. **Sugarbeets** had reports of water damage in a few areas and dry stress in others. Overall, the crop looks terrific with producers looking at a potential record yield. **Soybeans** maintained decent progress with many weedy fields. **Drybean** planting finished up during the week and early planted acres are still battling root rot issues. **Potatoes** finished the week nearly ready for harvest in some areas.

Soil moisture for week ending 07/04/10				
Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil	0	20	72	8
Subsoil	1	11	80	8

Crop condition for week ending 07/04/10					
Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
All Hay	2	6	22	49	21
Barley	0	2	36	42	20
Corn	1	5	18	46	30
Dry beans	0	16	35	32	17
Oats	1	1	18	58	22
Pasture	0	2	19	62	17
Winter Wheat	1	2	18	62	17

## Fruit

Rainfall amounts have been variable. Some farms in the southeast have had to irrigate tree and small fruits while other farms have received steady amounts of rainfall. **Apples** ranged from fruit size 39 to 40 mm in the northwest to 2 1/8 inches in the southeast. In the Grand Rapids area, predicted harvest dates were about 2 weeks ahead of the 2009 season. Spotted tentiform leafminer numbers have increased in the northwest. **Peaches** ranged from fruit size 1.5 inches in the southeast to 2 inches in the southwest. Harvest of early peach varieties will start soon in the southwest and Grand Rapids regions. European **plums** were 25 mm in the northwest; early plums were beginning to ripen in the southeast. **Strawberry** harvest continued in the northwest, and renovation has begun in the southeast and southwest regions. **Sweet cherries** were at 21 to 24 mm diameter in the northwest, and fruit harvest has begun to wrap up at most farms in the southwest and southeast. Brown rot symptoms continued in the southwest and southeast regions. High numbers of oblique-banded leafroller were observed in the northwest. **Tart cherries** were 20 to 21 mm in the northwest; harvest was underway in the southeast and southwest. **Pears** ranged from 29 mm diameter in the northwest to 2 inches in diameter in the southwest. **Blueberries** were at fruit size 13 to 14 mm in the southeast; harvest was underway on early varieties in the southwest. Blueberry maggot fly numbers were increasing in the southeast and southwest. **Grapes** were in late bloom in the northwest; fruit on primary shoots were at berry touch and pea-sized on secondary shoots in the southwest. Summer **raspberries** were nearing harvest in the Grand Rapids area, and harvest continued in the southwest and southeast.

## Vegetables

Vegetables benefitted from last week’s temperatures and progressed well. **Asparagus** harvest was complete. In Oceana County, the ferns for next year’s crop were developing well and pests were prevalent due to an abundance of moisture. Harvest of **cabbage**, **yellow squash**, **zucchini** and **cucumbers** continued in the southwest and Grand Rapids area. However, some squash in the Grand Rapids area, on wetter soils, has succumbed to disease. Zucchini, in Oceana County, has showed few flowers and was in second true leaf stage. Harvest of **potatoes**, **green onions**, **garlic**, **sweet peas**, **greens**, **snap beans** under tunnels, and **radishes** was ongoing. Progression of **carrots** continued. Alternaria (carrot leaf blight) was first reported this week. **Sweet corn** progression continued as fields were silking. Damage from insect pests has been minimal thus far. **Onions** were bulbing and in good condition. Growers continued to transplant **celery** in the Grand Rapids area. There were reports of foliar disease. Processing **broccoli** began emerging and showed significant signs of flea beetle feeding. **Tomatoes**, **peppers**, and **eggplant** were growing rapidly. Tomatoes were sizing. **Watermelons** were developing runners and in bloom. **Cantaloupe** was nearing harvest in southwest Michigan. **Muskmelons** were nearing full size. **Pumpkins**, **winter squash** and **hard squash** were vining and stands looked good. Growers finished planting **Brussel sprouts**, **cauliflower** and cabbage in the Macomb County area. **Parsnips**, **leeks**, **radishes**, **lettuce** and **red beets** looked good in the Grand Rapids area.

Crop progress for week ending 07/04/10				
Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches
Corn, height	42	30	25	31
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
All hay, first cutting	86	69	81	88
All hay, second cutting	28	10	12	18
Barley, headed	93	84	NA	NA
Blueberries, harvested	15	4	7	4
Dry beans, planted	100	94	99	100
Dry beans, emerged	97	80	90	92
Oats, headed	94	88	81	88
Oats, turning yellow	25	NA	13	14
Soybeans, emerged	100	97	100	100
Soybeans, blooming	26	7	6	9
Strawberries, harvested	86	69	72	79
Tart cherries, harvested	15	7	3	16
Winter wheat, turning yellow	96	80	66	86

Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 07/04/10 <sup>1</sup>												
Station	Temperature			Cumulative growing degree days <sup>2</sup>			Precipitation					
	Maximum	Minimum	Departure from normal	2010	2009	Normal	This week	Last two weeks	Last four weeks	Since April 1	Normal	
											Since April 1	For month
Ironwood	87	39		928	712		1.27	3.81	7.33	11.17		
Marquette	88	41		894	599		1.27	3.81	7.33	11.17		
Stephenson	87	41		1,070	807		1.40	4.41	8.81	12.41		
<b>Western UP</b>	90	34	1	934	660	748	1.34	3.71	7.25	11.15	9.75	3.42
Cornell	86	40		1,000	730		0.82	3.08	6.57	10.58		
Sault St Marie	88	47		913	600		0.07	1.19	4.39	7.97		
<b>Eastern UP</b>	88	37	1	885	605	599	0.66	2.59	6.41	10.11	9.23	3.19
Beulah	89	45		1,082	856		0.11	1.29	3.32	10.48		
Lake City	89	39		1,068	823		0.00	1.14	3.28	11.77		
Old Mission	89	44		1,053	766		0.09	1.32	4.58	10.70		
Pellston	90	40		1,032	733		0.27	1.77	7.16	11.50		
<b>Northwest</b>	90	38	-1	1,025	765	871	0.09	1.23	4.20	10.41	8.78	2.99
Alpena	92	45		1,008	769		0.59	1.35	4.74	10.83		
Houghton Lake	88	42		1,132	815		0.22	0.82	2.48	9.34		
Rogers City	91	47		924	776		0.18	1.78	7.12	12.65		
<b>Northeast</b>	92	42	-1	1,052	789	832	0.23	1.30	4.37	10.80	8.71	3.18
Fremont	87	45		1,218	952		0.32	1.54	1.96	7.54		
Hart	88	45		1,139	889		0.00	1.17	4.51	9.35		
Muskegon	89	49		1,279	1,007		0.00	1.38	3.72	9.48		
<b>West Central</b>	89	42	-1	1,188	937	973	0.08	1.45	3.58	9.07	9.23	2.54
Alma	91	47		1,259	959		0.00	2.61	3.89	14.20		
Big Rapids	91	43		1,170	919		0.00	1.91	2.75	12.91		
<b>Central</b>	91	43	-2	1,215	939	1,030	0.00	1.69	2.70	11.31	9.72	2.97
Bad Axe	92	47		1,158	844		0.00	2.63	3.67	12.61		
Pigeon	90	45		1,166	845		0.00	1.96	2.59	9.58		
Saginaw	91	47		1,331	968		0.00	1.47	2.78	10.06		
Standish	90	44		1,128	871		0.00	1.89	3.13	13.01		
<b>East Central</b>	93	44	-3	1,163	883	1,010	0.00	1.82	2.78	11.35	8.71	2.92
Fennville	88	46		1,244	1,009		0.00	2.75	4.72	15.73		
Grand Rapids	92	50		1,390	1,118		0.00	0.72	5.95	16.17		
Holland	93	50		1,387	1,174		0.00	1.47	3.74	17.33		
South Bend, IN	91	48		1,426	1,222		0.00	1.76	4.80	14.72		
Watervliet	90	48		1,340	1,097		0.00	1.58	4.19	13.23		
<b>Southwest</b>	95	44	-3	1,344	1,111	1,108	0.00	1.78	4.46	14.46	10.53	3.09
Belding	90	42		1,237	962		0.01	1.34	3.53	12.82		
Coldwater	92	46		1,403	1,149		0.00	1.07	2.38	12.85		
Lansing	92	45		1,352	1,028		0.01	0.61	2.11	11.51		
<b>South Central</b>	92	42	-4	1,304	1,045	1,105	0.01	1.03	3.07	13.00	10.35	3.22
Detroit	93	51		1,465	1,175		0.00	1.40	2.29	12.66		
Flint	93	44		1,348	1,020		0.00	0.88	1.75	10.64		
Romeo	93	46		1,270	1,001		0.00	0.58	1.35	10.51		
Tipton	91	47		1,337	1,089		0.00	1.47	3.09	15.09		
Toledo, OH	94	49		1,501	1,214		0.00	0.51	1.57	13.69		
<b>Southeast</b>	94	42	-3	1,357	1,110	1,074	0.00	0.92	2.07	12.42	10.00	3.11

<sup>1</sup> Issued by the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Commerce, Michigan State University Cooperative Extension Service, Agricultural Meteorologist, Department of Geography, and Crop Advisory Team ALERTS.

<sup>2</sup> Growing degree days (GDD) is the sum of daily mean temperatures minus 50 per day, 86 maximum and 50 minimum. The GDD is accumulative from April 1.